GBr 97.10.37

[Copy of letter prepared as an answer to Mrs. Greene Smith's offer]

Concord, Mass.

~~26th Aug.~~ 1892.

Mrs. Greene Smith.

Peterboro, New York.

My dear Madam.

Your letter dated at Peterboro, Aug. 18, 1892, offering to give to the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Cambridge, Massachusetts, under certain stated conditions, the collection of birds made by your husband has just reached me here. In reply I am happy to say that this collection will be most acceptable to the Museum and that I am authorized by Mr. Agassiz

to agree to all your conditions
and to promise that they
shall be faithfully carried out.
Perhaps it will be well to
repeat them here as follows:
1st That the H. A. birds in
the Green Smith Collection shall
practically replace the present
H. A. collection of the Museum
of Comparative Zoology and
shall be kept together as far
as possible, each specimen to
be labelled conspicuously with
the name of Green Smith.
2nd That Museum shall be
allowed to make further additions
to this collection but it
shall be privileged to discard
from the Green Smith birds
only such specimens as are
frauduently obtained.
3rd Any part of the Green Smith

collection which the Cambridge Museum may at any time discard shall be returned to you or your heirs.

If the Museum, at its own expense, will pack & transfer the collection within fifty days from the date of this, my letter of acceptance.

It is further understood & agreed that Mrs. Smith is to reserve specimens No 886 from the N.A. collection and also all birds not North American excepting those contained in the collection of Humming birds.

You will observe that I have made a few verbal changes in the above transcription of your conditions but they are designed to insure greater definiteness of statement & not to change in any way the spirit of your wishes.

In conclusion allow me to express on behalf of Mrs. Agassiz & the Museum our appreciation of your kindness & generosity in offering to us this most valuable collection of birds.

Yours very truly

William Brewster.

Assistant in charge
Mammals & Birds. Mus. Comp. Zool.